

Center Instructions

I chose 6 centers for my classroom, because it worked out to three or four students per center. (The number of centers will depend on the number of students involved--you may need to have more centers or fewer centers depending on the number of students you have. The individual articles are not required...if you find other sources you would rather use, they can be substituted in place of the resources below.)

Each center will have one of the resources below--either an article or a video--for students to read or watch. During each rotation each group will read/watch the resource and take notes on the important information they learn. They will also record vocabulary they are unfamiliar with and any questions they have after reading the article. (I have chosen to keep all articles and information in their science journals, however, if you do not use science journals, you can keep the information in any way you feel is appropriate or use the note catcher in the folder.) You can choose to have multiple rotations per day depending on the amount of time you have available for science instruction. Each rotation is about 20-25 minutes in length.

There is also one center with a puzzle and a short article. I made the puzzle using the pictures of the Earth's layers that is in the folder. Each level from the picture gets its own piece in the puzzle. (Cut out and laminate.) The students put the puzzle together and place the labels in the appropriate area to describe each layer. They should take notes on the puzzle and the article. (You could also have students draw the completed puzzle in their journals or provide them with a copy of the finished product to include in their journals.) I chose to place the puzzle with the 4th resource in the list, because the article is very short. (If you need more groups, feel free to separate the items into different groups.)

Resources:

1. <http://volcano.oregonstate.edu/earths-layers-lesson-1>
2. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/trevornace/2016/01/16/layers-of-the-earth-lies-beneath-earths-crust/#7be8e67c58e6>
3. <http://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/earths-layers.html>
4. http://www.ducksters.com/science/composition_of_the_earth.php
5. <http://www.coolkidfacts.com/layers-of-the-earth-for-kids/>
6. <https://www.bighistoryproject.com/chapters/2#the-rock-we-call-home>